

POLREP # 88

BoRit Asbestos NPL Site

Ambler, PA 19002

Event: CERCLA Response Activities

ATTN: Region III RRC

I. Situation (May 1, 2014 –May 31, 2014)

- A. In April 2006, EPA Site Assessment group conducted a baseline sampling event at the BoRit Asbestos Pile Site (Site). The Site is located along West Maple Street and Chestnut Avenue in Ambler, PA, and is in the vicinity of the Ambler Asbestos National Priority List (NPL) Site. The Site consists of a waste pile, the bordering reservoir, the Whitpain Wissahickon Park, and the adjacent banks of the Wissahickon Creek, Rose Valley Creek, and Tannery Run. Results from the sampling event showed the presence of asbestos in the air, soil, surface water, and sediments. Asbestos-containing materials (ACM) are easily seen throughout the entire Site.
- B. The release meets the criteria for conducting a Removal Action under Section 300.415 of the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP). An EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) determined that immediate funds are needed to mitigate the threat posed to human health and the environment. The OSC authorized a budget for the Removal Action not to exceed \$250,000, in accordance with EPA re-delegation of authority 14-2.
- C. On August 14, 2006, the EPA OSC prepared a Special Bulletin A documenting the scope of work needed to start a Removal Action at the Site to protect human health and the environment.
- D. A total of eight rounds of air sampling were conducted from October 2006 through September 2007. There were eight air sampling locations along the perimeter of the Site (locations varied with daily wind direction), five fixed locations in the community and a remote location in the nearby town to be used as a background or reference sample. During some of the rounds, activity-based sampling (ABS) was conducted (EPA contractors, with personal air pumps on them, conducted different tasks – walking, raking, soil sampling).
- E. Based on the sampling results from October 2006 through September 2007, EPA concluded that the residents in the vicinity of the BoRit Site are not being currently exposed to asbestos fibers from the Site at levels that pose an unacceptable or significant health risk.
- F. On July 7, 2008, a kick-off meeting was held at the site. EPA, Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START), and Emergency and Rapid

Response Services (ERRS) personnel were present on-site. EPA discussed design aspects with START and site working logistics with ERRS.

- G. On April 8, 2009, EPA announced the addition of the BoRit Asbestos Site to the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL).
- H. On July 1, 2010, Weston Solutions, Inc. assumed the role as START for BoRit Asbestos NPL Site.
- I. As of May 31, 2014, approximately 8,361 truck-loads (approximately 125,415 yd³) of clean fill have been delivered to the site.
- J. As of May 31, 2014, 249 roll-off containers of ACM, with a combined weight of approximately 2,737 tons, have been disposed of at the landfill.
- K. As of May 31, 2014, we have been pumped, treated and discharged approximately 22,875,800 gallons of water from the pond into the Wissahickon Creek. Effluent sampling was conducted as per PADEP permit requirements. To date, there have been no results which exceed limits set by the permit.
- L. As of May 09, 2014, we have spent approximately \$17,246,345 (Removal contractors' money only – time and material).
- M. For more information, see previous POLREPs.

II. Actions Taken

- A. May 2, 2014: Loaded roll off with debris from reservoir berm for off-site disposal.
- B. May 5, 2014: Collected water sample from reservoir for alkalinity and TSS analysis. Removed fence post and stumps adjacent Maple Street and loads roll offs for off-site disposal of debris.
- C. May 6, 2014: Pumped out pit at former valve station. Removed fence posts and loaded rolls offs for offsite disposal of debris.
- D. May 7, 2014: Loaded out concrete stock pile, began construction of access road parallel to reservoir road.
- E. May 12, 2014: Continued loading roll offs, building access road along SE bank of reservoir and accepting clean fill on the south end of site.
- F. May 21, 2014: Cleaned out one of the two frac tanks for removal from site. The other tank will remain on-site for future dewatering operations. Removed stumps along reservoir banks.
- G. May 26, 2014: No site ops due to Memorial Day Holiday.

- H. May 30, 2014: Continued removing stumps along reservoir berm and placing them in roll off containers for off-site disposal.

III. Future Actions

- A. Continued dewatering the pond and collecting a weekly effluent sample.
- B. Continue creating work area (access road) around reservoir.
- C. Continue accepting clean fill.
- D. Continue air sampling when necessary.

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